

CLAIMS:

1-42. Canceled.

43. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical screening apparatus for screening pharmacological agents for agents that impact a biological tissue; said screen comprising:

an evanescent sensing device;

at least one sensor having affixed to its surface molecules of a first type, which have affinity for molecules of a biological receptor; and

a molecular tag bound such that when the molecule of the first type and the molecules of the biological receptor bind together, in the presence of a pharmacological agent, the tag produces an conformational alteration in said molecular tag resulting in an alteration in signal recorded by said evanescent sensing device thereby detecting pharmacological agents that impact the biological tissue.

44. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 43, wherein said molecules of the second type are antibodies to said receptor.

45. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 44, wherein the biological tissue is tumor tissue.

46. (Withdrawn) A method for screening pharmacological agents to determine agents which induce regression of a cancer by;

contacting extract from a tumor tissue biopsy with a molecular tag, thereby causing the tag to bind to receptor molecules present in the tumor tissue biopsy;

flowing the tag sample extract through a sensor according to claim 43 and recording the time course of signal observed by an evanescent sensing device;

introducing pharmacological agents to be assessed into the tag sample extract;

flowing said tag sample extract through the sensor again and recording the time course of signal observed by the evanescent sensing device; and using the data to evaluate the impact of the pharmacological agent on the rate of transcription of gene products.

47. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical screen for screening pharmacological agents for agents that impact a biological tissue, said screen comprising:

an evanescent sensing device;
at least one sensor having affixed to its surface molecules of a first type, which have affinity for molecules of a biological receptor; and
a molecular tag which produces an conformational alteration in said molecular tag resulting in an alteration in signal recorded by said evanescent sensing device upon the binding between molecules of the first type and molecules of biological receptor, said tag also being associated with molecules of the first type.

48. (Cancelled).

49. (Withdrawn) A method for screening pharmacological agents to determine agents which induce regression of a cancer by;

flowing an extract of tumor tissue through a sensor according to claim 47 and recording the time course of signal observed by an evanescent sensing device;

introducing pharmacological agents to be assessed into the sample extract;

flowing said sample extract through the sensor again and recording the time course of signal observed by the evanescent sensing device; and

using the data to evaluate the impact of the pharmacological agent on the rate of transcription of gene products.